Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 (c) U.S. Application No. 09/761,689

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

12. (previously presented) An apparatus for manufacturing a single wire harness including a plurality of partial harnesses using a plurality of proper connectors and a plurality of hybrid connectors, the apparatus comprising:

a wire-harness fabricating station for forming the single wire harness from the plurality of partial harnesses, the wire-harness fabricating station having a first connector receiving jig configured to detachably hold the plurality of proper connectors and a second connector receiving jig configured to detachably hold the plurality of hybrid connectors,

wherein said plurality of proper connectors receive terminals of one of the plurality of partial harnesses, and

wherein said plurality of hybrid connectors receive terminals of at least two of the plurality of partial harnesses.

13. (previously presented) The apparatus for manufacturing a wire harness according to claim 12, wherein the wire harness fabricating station comprises a connector transferring device for transferring, to the first and second connector receiving jigs, one of the plurality of proper

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connectors and one of the plurality of hybrid connectors, respectively, which are fitted in advance to the plurality of partial harnesses.

14. (withdrawn) An apparatus for manufacturing a wire harness, comprising:

a wire-harness fabricating station for forming a wire harness from a plurality of partial harnesses, the wire-harness fabricating station having a connector receiving jig which detachably holds a plurality of proper connectors and a plurality of hybrid connectors,

wherein the connector receiving jig comprises an air cylinder unit for removably fixing the plurality of proper connectors and plurality of hybrid connectors to the connector receiving jig.

- 15. (withdrawn) The apparatus for manufacturing a wire harness according to claim 14, wherein the connector receiving jig is a substantially U-shaped frame member comprising a base and a pair of upright side plates formed on each end of the base.
- 16. (withdrawn) The apparatus for manufacturing a wire harness according to claim 14, wherein the air cylinder unit comprises a piston slidably fitted in a cylinder.
- 17. (withdrawn) The apparatus for manufacturing a wire harness according to claim 16, wherein the cylinder comprises a front cover, and a rear cover having a spring and piston bar located therein,

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wherein the piston bar is configured to project through a hole formed in the front cover of the cylinder, such that the piston bar presses one of the pair of side plates of the connector receiving jig to fix the plurality of proper connectors and the plurality of hybrids connectors in the connector receiving jig.

18. (withdrawn) The apparatus for manufacturing a wire harness according to claim 14, further comprising a plurality of connector receiving jigs.

19. (new) An apparatus for manufacturing a complete wire harness from a plurality of partial harnesses, comprising:

a first transferring unit, transferring a wire clamping bar which holds an initial one of the partial harnesses having a plurality of electric wires to a wire-harness fabricating station;

an inserting unit, inserting terminals disposed at ends of the plurality of electric wires into predetermined terminal accommodating chambers of predetermined ones of a plurality of connectors set on a connector receiving jig in the wire-harness fabricating station; and

wherein ensuing ones of the partial harnesses are manufactured so as to form the complete wire harness by the first transferring unit, the inserting unit and the removing unit.

a removing unit, removing the wire clamping bar which has been emptied,

20. (new) The apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising a second transferring unit which transfers a proper connector fitted in advance to ends of predetermined ones of the

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electric wires of each of the partial harnesses to the connector receiving jig in the wire-harness fabricating station.

- 21. (new) The apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising a first joining unit which collectively joins, in the wire-harness fabricating station, two or more stripped portions of the electric wires included in each of the partial harnesses.
- 22. (new) The apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising a second joining unit which joins, in the wire-harness fabricating station, stripped portions of the ends of the electric wires included in each of the partial harnesses, such that the stripped portions are consecutively superposed one on top of another each time each of the partial harnesses is transferred to the wire-harness fabricating station.

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